



SANTA ANA RIVER WATERSHED GROUP

**- a collaborative planning dialogue focused on concerns, issues and opportunities
regarding the Santa Ana River Watershed**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lindell L. Marsh, Siemon, Larsen & Marsh, 19800 MacArthur, Suite 1070,
Irvine, CA 92612 Tel: 949-752-1538 Fax: 949-752-6804 E-Mail: lmarsh@att.net

**California Biodiversity Council
January 9 –10, 2002**

SHARED GOVERNANCE IN THE SANTA ANA RIVER VALLEY

PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY January 9, 2002

CBC FIELD TRIP and OVERVIEW OF THE REGION

Two-three buses, approximately 50-60 people

Location: Briefing DoubleTree Hotel, Ontario

Time:	12:30PM – 1:15PM	Overview Briefing
	1:15PM – 4:00PM	Tour/Specific Briefings
	5:15PM – 8:00PM	Reception/Light Dinner

12:30 – 1:15

Santa Ana Region Overview Briefing:

Welcome: Jerry King, Chairman, Watershed Group; SAWPA and OCWD and former Chairman, Regional Water Quality Control Board: overview of the Watershed using a **virtual tour presentation to be developed by SAWPA.**

1:15 – 4:00 Tour Chino Basin Dairy Area and Prado Basin:

View SAWPA video on bus

Press conference at Prado Wetlands

1:15 – 2:00 Tour Chino Basin:

- ◆ **Grove Avenue Basin** - Major dairy storm-water retention basin to protect water quality of Dairy Area and River.
- ◆ **Dairy Area /Dairy Digester** - Drive through the largest concentration of dairies in the world; view the dairy/urban transformation;
Stop at Koopal anaerobic digester project.
- ◆ **Co-Composting Site Tour** - Drive through tour of IEUA co-composting site and briefing on Organics Management Strategy and information on enclosed composting facility/collaboration with OCSD (especially important in light of last month's draft statewide ruling that all composting activities should be enclosed).
- ◆ **IEUA RP-5** – Drive by construction site of this state of the art water recycling/waste treatment plant.
- ◆ **Chino Desalter** – Drive through tour of the Desalter facility (doors open) with briefing on the bus.
- ◆ **Dairy Washwater Constructed Wetlands** – Brief stop.
- ◆ **Pilot Sewering Project** - Drive by.

2:00 - 3:45 Visit Prado Basin:

Visit area of 10,000 acres (400 acres of constructed wetlands and plans for expansion) of wetlands, wildlife habitat, open space, recreational facilities, flood control and water conservation facilities; least Bell's vireo habitat. One of the most significant fresh water wetland areas in Southern California. Discuss main-stem project (possible OCFD acquisition area).

♦ ***Celebration of Santa Ana River Sucker Conservation Program Signing***

Briefings:

- ♦ **Dairy Area Urban Transition** – Briefing of anticipated urban conversion (Al Bell): 10 minutes
- ♦ **River Trail** - View river trail and conduct briefing on proposed River Center and River Trail system (Pete Dangermond): 10 minutes
- ♦ **Arundo** – View Arundo area and conduct briefing on eradication of exotics/native habitat program (Dick Zembal): 10 minutes
- ♦ **Tri-County Multiple Species Conservation Planning** (Randy Scott, Richard Lashbrook, Tim Neely): 20 minutes
- ♦ **Other Special Areas of mention** (Tom Scott – Bolsa Chica, Upper Newport, Mouth-of-the River, San Timoteo, Temescal, San Jacinto, High Altitude Pine Forests, mountain-hills linkages (One/two of: Tom Scott, Randy Scott, Dick Zembal): 10 minutes

3:45 – 4:00 Return to Hotel

5:15 – 8:00 – Reception/Awards Presentation

Approximately 40-60 people. Leave by buses from hotel. Several conservation awards will be presented at the reception.

Co-hosted by the Riverside Land Conservancy, an informal reception/heavy hors d'oeuvres and conversation with Sam Maloof at the Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation Center. Sam is a world renowned woodworker, whose home and workshop are eligible for the National Register of Historic places and have recently been relocated (with some pain) to allow the completion of the 210 Freeway.

Suggested award presenter: Huell Howser.

THURSDAY January 10, 2002

Event: California Biodiversity Council and Santa Ana Watershed
Group Meetings

Location: DoubleTree Hotel, Ontario

Time: 8:30AM – 3:00PM

8:30AM – 9:30AM

California Biodiversity Council Business Meeting
CBC to conduct regular business meeting

9:00AM – 9:45AM

Welcome and Setting the Stage: *Shared Governance in the Future of the Santa Ana River Valley, the fastest growing watershed in the Nation.*

Welcome: Chairman Jerry King and Riverside County Supervisor John Tavaglione

Setting the Stage: William Gayk: *a brief overview of the Santa Ana River Valley's economics, population, growth forecasts and anticipated urbanization.*

9:45 – 10:15 Break

10:15 – 12:00

Session 1 Water: Quality, Supply, Reclamation and Conjunctive Use¹

Panel:

- **Joe Grindstaff, General Manager, SAWPA (Moderator)**
- **Richard Atwater (Martha Davis), General Manager, IEUA**
- **Blake Anderson, General Manager, OCSD**
- **Bill Mills, General Manager, OCWD**

Presentations – 40 minutes

Discussion – 90 minutes

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

1:00 – 1:30 Awards (awards not presented the previous day; Suggested presenter: Assembly woman Lynn Daucher)

1:30 – 2:45:

1. Discussion of the efforts to date to collaborate and address the water needs of the Watershed, as well as future needs and opportunities. Specific topics may include: SAWPA's Proposition 13 effort and Integrated Plan; the Chino Basin Peace Agreement and conjunctive water use planning (including storm water)—San Timoteo, Chino, OC Basins; the OC Groundwater Replenishment Project and the regional SARI line. The need for watershed-wide strategies for addressing organic residuals (e.g., manure, biosolids). All with the idea of looking to the need for future collaboration (funding and programmatic) both generally and specifically.

Session 2 Shared Governance in the Santa Ana River Valley²

Panel:

- **Lindell Marsh, Facilitator, Santa Ana River Watershed Group (Moderator)**
- **Jerry Blum, Director of Planning, City of Ontario**
- **Larry Paul, Assistant CEO, Orange County**
- **Richard Lashbrook, Riverside County**
- **Pete Dangermond, Dangermond Associates**

Presentations – 50 minutes

Discussion – 40 Minutes

2:45 – 3:00

Concluding Remarks

- Chairman Jerry King
- Secretary Mary Nichols and BLM State Director Mike Pool
- Supervisor John Tavaglione

² Discussion of “shared governance” in the Watershed under the State/Federal MOU by reference to examples as a way to address key needs of a watershed (in this case the needs of the fastest growing watershed population in the nation) and how it relates or could relate to the efforts of other agencies and constituencies (e.g. SCAG, the Corps, FWS, CDFG, Water Board). Examples would include:

- **Chino Basin:** Dairies (Manure Management Strategy), Dairy/urban transition – ULI workshops; Lower Chino/Prado Basins Conservation Program.
- **Santa Ana Sucker Conservation Program/Riverwide Conservation Program.**
- **OC/Corps watersheds partnership**
- **Riverside County Integrated Planning Project**
- **Urban Runoff Group: Information Banking and Modeling; OC Coastal Plain Strategy** (developing a collaborative strategy to address aging flood control and sewer infrastructure, ocean water quality and storm and urban runoff).
- **San Timoteo Watershed Management Program.**
- **OCWD/SAWA/FWS Collaborative Exotic/Native Species Program**
- **Riverside Land Conservancy**

Discussion might include ideas for further collaboration, including: *a focus on watersheds of national significance*; a *State Santa Ana River Valley Watershed Fund under the State/Federal MOU*; *Special area funding* (focused demonstrations): Mouth-of-the River; Lower Chino/Prado Basins; San Bernardino Highlands; and, San Timoteo; Collaborative Programs: *scoping of a riverwide conservation program* (TMDLs, wildlife, water quality); “*Smart Growth*” workshops focused on Chino Basin Dairy Area in collaboration with local agencies, ULI and others.

The Take Away Message

The Santa Ana River Valley Watershed population is the fastest growing in the nation. It is the urbanizing tier of the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area. As recognized by the State/Federal MOU, it is a watershed of national significance. Local, state and federal project focused regulatory programs are inadequate to address this transformation. As provided in the MOU, the diverse constituency of agencies and interests are in the process of inventing a better approach; we call it “shared governance.” Working together – local, state and national agencies and interests -- (both in funding and programmatically), ahead of regulation, to develop collaborative strategies (initiatives) to address concerns and opportunities in the manner of “smart growth”; that is, addressing “green infrastructure” concurrently with pipelines, roads and housing. The result is the development of a watershed-wide “quilt” of initiatives and partnerships – a robust institutional fabric, to meet the needs of our transformation. It is a very powerful, successful and replicable.

- The Santa Ana River Valley watershed is extremely diverse, possibly the most diverse of any region of California (climate, topography, wildlife, economic productivity and wealth, ethnicity, ???).
- The unparalleled growth within the Santa Ana River Valley when combined with its diversity, have created major challenges. The next twenty years will determine whether we can look to the resulting urban/environmental form with pride or apologies.
- A key lesson is that these challenges cannot be met by agencies and interests working in isolation or with only their own resources. We must combine, work thoughtfully, systemically and collaboratively. Such collaboration is respectful and in the interest of the private sector and the local, state and national communities.
- We are learning to collaborate – the exemplars are in place. We are setting aside differences and traditional “turf” boundaries – working, creating our future, together. In a way, it is like the movie production companies – coming together initiative-by-initiative, project-by-project, program-by-program, dollars-with-dollars.

- In some cases (like the Integrated Water Plan), the objective is to make the watershed self-reliant (e.g. during time of draught, reducing pressure on the State Project and the Colorado River) – to promote individual responsibility and accountability. At the same time, we also “think” and plan systemically and contextually – as part of the region, the state and the nation. Our water, transportation and energy systems must provide both for maximum individual responsibility and independence, as well as contextual interdependence.
- None of our individual agencies, or the Watershed agencies as a whole, can alone successfully address the burden of the anticipated growth. Coordinated funding by the local, regional, state and national communities is critical, as is the programmatic collaboration of the CBC with us. We must learn how to better share, respectfully, in the governance of the Watershed.

This Program, including the Wednesday tour and Thursday annual meeting are intended to provide the opportunity to explore and share these points with not only the CBC, but with our own local watershed constituency.